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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 053847-5002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Masami MASUKO	)	Confirmation No.: 4923
	)	
Application No.: 10/618,706	)	Group Art Unit: 1762
	)	
Filed: July 15, 2003	)	Examiner: B. Chen
	)	
For: WHETSTONE PELLET, WHETSTONE,	)	
PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING THEM,	)	
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING OPTICAL	)	
ELEMENT USING WHETSTONE, AND	)	
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING EXPOSURE)	)	
APPARATUS	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance.

The document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a European Search Report issued by the European Patent Office on September 20, 2004 (copy enclosed). Furthermore, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge the document listed on the attached Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. Accordingly, Applicant does not believe a fee is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

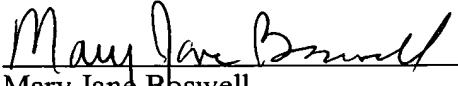
**EXCEPT** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

Dated: October 19, 2004

By:

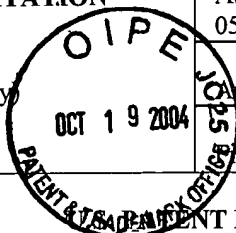
  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

 Attorney Docket No.  
053847-5002

Application No.: 10/618,706

 (Use several sheets if necessary)  
PTO Form 1449


Applicant(s): Masami MASUKO

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Filing Date: July 15, 2003

 Confirmation No.: 4923  
Group Art Unit: 1762

**DOMESTIC PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	6,106,382	Aug. 22, 2000	Sakaguchi	-	-	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	<u>Translation</u>	
						YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.